



Department of State *27 Camb*  
**TELEGRAM**

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46-41

ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 NEA-13 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03  
RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 IO-13 UPW-01 AID-28 E-15 RSR-01

/160 W

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O P 171055Z MAY 70  
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 835  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PIRORITY  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 009  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
RUMJUN/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 31  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
USMISSION USUN  
CINCPAC  
DIA  
RHMSMVA/COMUSMACV  
7AF TON SON NHUT AFB  
RHMUABA/7713AF UDORN AFB

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| DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR |                               |
| REVIEWED BY <i>Sublay</i>    | DATE <i>10/9/80</i>           |
| RDS [ ] OF XDS [ ] EXT. DATE | REASON(S) [ ]                 |
| TS AUTH. [ ]                 | ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS [ ] |
| DECLASSIFIED [ ]             | RELEASABLE [ ]                |
| RELEASE DENIED [ ]           | PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS [ ]      |

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD AND J-2

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*Johnson Sent 942*  
*5-17-70*



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JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJ: CAMBODIAN SITREP

1. MILITARY BRIEFER STATED MAY 17 THAT MOST IMPORTANT ACTION DURING PREVIOUS 24 HOURS TOOK PLACE IN KOMPONG CHAM WHERE VC HAD ATTACKED TOWN. BRIEFER ALSO INDICATED THAT STUNG TRENG CONTROLLED BY "AGGRESSORS". DATT INFORMED MAY 17 AM THAT MAIN CONCENTRATION OF VC IN KOMPONG CHAM TOWN LOCATED IN UNIVERSITY AT WESTERN END OF CITY AND THAT FIGHTING CONTINUES TODAY, (PM REPORTS FROM INCOMING TRAVELLERS INDICATE FANK IN CONTROL MOST OF TOWN.) DATT ALSO TOLD STUNG TRENG TOWN STILL BEING HELD BY FANK.
2. PARTY OF JOURNALISTS, REPORTED TRAPPED IN KOMPONG CHAM TOWN (EMBTELL 933), APPARENTLY NO CAUGHT BY VE/NVNA BUT HAD REMAINED WITH CAMBODIAN FORCES TO FILM ACTION. JOURNALISTS RETURNED TO PHNOM PENH LATE SATURDAY EVENING.
3. EVIDENCE APPEARS STRONG, HOWEVER, THAT TWO WESTERNERS REPORTED EXECUTED BY VC IN PREY VENG PROVINCE ARE MISSING FRENCH PRIESTS FROM AREA. MAY 16 FBIS REPORTED NCNA BROADCAST OF "ROYAL GOVT OF FUNK" COMMUNIQUE PLACED BLAME FOR MURDER OF TWO PRIESTS ON US/SVN FORCES AND THAT PLACING BLAME ON LIBERATION FORCES WAS PLOT BY CIA. ACCORDING TO AKP ARTICLE MAY 17, AT LEAST 15 JOURNALISTS, TWO FRENCH TEACHERS AND A JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL SPECIALIST ON MISSING LIST.
4. EMBASSY INFORMED BY GVN DELEGATION THAT SECOND MOVEMENT OF VIETNAMESE NAVAL REPATRIATION VESSELS LEFT PHNOM PENH 7:00 AM MAY 17 WITH 9300 VIETNAMESE. THIS FIGURE SOME 200 MORE THAN PREDICTED EARLIER. EMBASSY ALSO INFORMED THAT AVERAGE NUMBER VIETNAMESE REPATRIATED BY AIR NOW APPROXIMATELY 250 PER DAY.
5. AT SATURDAY MORNING MILITARY BRIEFING, BRIEFER ANNOUNCED THAT CAPTURED VC WOULD BE AVAILABLE SATURDAY AFTERNOON TO PRESS. PRISONER TURNED OUT TO BE WOUNDED 17-YEAR OLD BOY WHO WAS PRESENTED TO PRESS LYING ON STRETCHER. HALF-WAY THROUGH QUESTIONING BOY BROKE DOWN AND BEGAN CRYING. MANY JOURNALISTS LEFT AT THIS POINT AND IT APPARENT THAT GOC WILL RECEIVE BLACK-EYE FOR INEPTNESS.

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ASIDE FROM HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS, JOURNALISTS WERE CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE VIOLATION OF GENEVA ACCORDS.

7. IN VIEW OF NEED TO ECONOMIZE ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY HAS REQUESTED INDUSTRIALISTS TO IMPORT PRIMARY MATERIALS WITHOUT DELAY TO PROVIDE SUPPLIES FOR NOT LESS THAN SIX MONTHS. THESE MATERIALS ARE TO BE IMPORTED UNDER BARTER ARRANGEMENTS OR ON CREDIT. COMMENT: WITH THE VC/NVNA CONTROLLING THE NORTHEAST PROVINCES WHERE THE LARGE, FRENCH-OWNED RUBBER ESTATES ARE LOCATED, THE LOSS OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE THROUGH DIMINUTION OF RUBBER EXPORTS WILL BE FELT MOST IMMEDIATELY. RUBBER ACCOUNTS FOR OVER ONE THIRD OF CAMBODIA'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

8. THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THAILAND AND CAMBODIA WILL PERMIT DIRECT AIR SERVICES BY THE RESPECTIVE NATIONAL AIR LINES. (SINCE 1961 SERVICE BETWEEN PHNOM PENH AND BANGKOK HAS BEEN AVAILABLE ONLY VIA FOREIGN AIRLINES). AIR CAMBODGE ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO BEGIN SERVICE BETWEEN SEAM REAP AND BANGKOK ON JUNE 10. THERE WILL BE 3 FLIGHTS WEEKLY. AIR CAMBODGE ESTIMATES THAT THIS SERVICE WILL ATTRACT MORE THAN 40,000 TOURISTS PER YEAR. COMMENT: FREQUENT, DIRECT SERVICE TO ANGKOR, WHICH REMAINS CALM AND REMOVED FROM MILITARY ACTION TO DATE, SHOULD PERMIT SOME REVIVAL OF THE CAMBODIAN TOURIST INDUSTRY.

9. MORNING MAY 16 SUPERIOR OF THOMMAYUTH ORDER MADE TV APPEARANCE BEFORE ALL JOURNALISTS HERE AND REPEATED STATEMENT REPORTED PHNOM PENH 926 (NOTAL). MOHANIKAY SUPERIOR DID NOT APPEAR AS EMBASSY HAD UNDERSTOOD. COMMENT: THOMMAYUTH ORDER SMALLER OF BUDDHISTS ORDERS HERE BUT IT IS THE ORDER TO WHICH THE ROYAL FAMILY BELONGS.

10. AKP CARRIES THREE AFP ARTICLES ON PROGRESS OF DJAKARTA CONFERENCE. ONE NOTED THAT CONFERENCE WAS DIVIDED BETWEEN HARD-LINERS, SOUTH VIETNAM, SOUTH KOREA AND CAMBODIA, AND THE MODERATES, PHILIPPINES AND SINGAPORE, WITH THE OTHER NATIONS SEEKING A COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE TWO. ANOTHER ARTICLE NOTES THAT JAPAN OFFERED FUNDS AND EQUIPMENT FOR IMMEDIATE REACTIVATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONTROL COMMISSION. THIRD ARTICLE REPORTS THAT THAI FONMIN STATED THAT CONFERENCE WOULD CONSIDER FOUR PROPOSALS:

(A). REQUEST TO SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONVENE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CAMBODIA;

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- (B) REACTIVATION OF ICC;
- (C) WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FOREIGN TROOPS FROM CAMBODIA; AND
- (D) THE SENDING OF AN OBSERVER MISSION TO CAMBODIA.

1. AKP CARRIES REPORT OF INTERVIEW GIVEN BY MININFO TRINH HOANH TO FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT NUMBER OF POLITICAL PARTIES WOULD BE ALLOWED UNDER REPUBLIC, TRINH HOANH SAID QUESTION BEING STUDIED, THAT PERSONALLY HE THOUGHT TOO MANY PARTIES WOULD BE AS BAD AS A SINGLE PARTY. THE BEST WOULD BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF 2 OR 3 PARTIES. ASKED WHETHER THE ARMY WOULD PLAY IMPORTANT POLITICAL ROLE, MININFO SAID ARMY REGULATIONS PROHIBIT POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND THAT NEW CONSTITUTION WOULD NOT CHANGE THIS. AT MOMENT, HOWEVER, THE SITUATION IS EXTRAORDINARY AND IT WAS NECESSARY TO TAKE URGENT ACTION. IN REPLYING TO QUESTION AS TO WHETHER CAMBODIA WOULD SEND AN OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO INDIA FOR CONVERSATIONS (RE ICC), MININFO SAID WE INTEND TO SEND DELEGATIONS TO ALL COUNTRIES. THESE WILL BE SENT LATER.

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